

\$10,000 RANSOM FOR BOY

SOCIETY WOMAN IN CELL

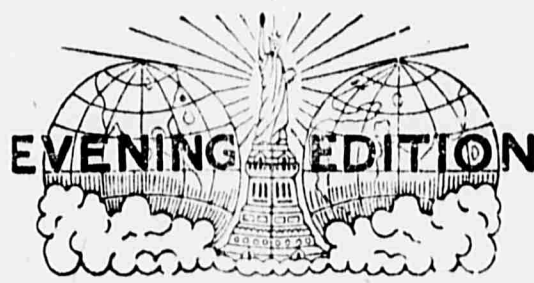


WEATHER—Fair to-night; Friday rain or snow.

FINAL RESULTS EDITION

PRICE ONE CENT.

The



World

"Circulation Books Open to All."

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NEW YORK, THURSDAY, MARCH 18, 1909.

PRICE ONE CENT.

ARREST WEALTHY WIDOW ON A TRAIN, CHARGED WITH \$8,000 GEM THEFT

Mrs. E. J. Ridley, of Atlanta, Ga., dragged from coach at Newark.

CHILDREN TAKEN, TOO.

On Her Way to Visit Son-in-Law, Official of Great Cracker Trust.

Mrs. E. J. Ridley, a wealthy widow of Atlanta, Ga., who is said to be related to prominent persons in this city, was arrested when she reached Newark this afternoon on a train from the South, and taken to the local police court to be arraigned on a charge of grand larceny. She was accused of having in her possession a chateleine bag belonging to Mrs. Andrew J. Albright, of this city and containing jewels worth about \$8,000. Mrs. Ridley is well known in Atlanta society as well as in New York, and is a noted entertainer.

Two Children Dragged Along.

Mrs. Ridley, who is about fifty years old, gray-haired, refined and handsomely dressed, was on her way to East Orange, in response to a telegram calling of the desperate illness of her son-in-law, J. A. Enslow, an official of the National Biscuit Company. She was bringing with her the seven-year-old son of the Enslows, her grandson, Ridley Madison Enslow, who had been visiting her, and Catherine Matthews, a ten-year-old girl, who has also been staying at the Ridley home in Atlanta. At the time Mrs. Ridley was going, a protesting prisoner, to the police station in Newark, with the two children trailing forlornly along behind, an operation was being performed on Mr. Enslow in the Memorial Hospital at Orange.

Mr. and Mrs. Albright got aboard the train at Newark, where Mrs. Ridley and her two children had taken, shortly before reaching Washington, D. C., where they had been taken away by two men. Mrs. Ridley asked him what a passenger should do who either lost an article of value or discovered a lost article, and that he told her the first duty would be to make a report to the conductor. As he tells it she said nothing more on the subject.

Conductor Wired Ahead.

Without notifying any one of his suspicions, the conductor wired ahead, and when the train reached Newark Detective Farrell, of the Newark force, and Detectives Fraser and Grannan, of the Pennsylvania's private staff, were waiting.

It was stated by the Newark police that Mrs. Albright's chateleine bag had been found to be in Mrs. Ridley's possession with all its contents intact, except one ring, worth \$50, that could not be located. The Newark police also said her explanation was that she had found the bag on board the car, where it had been dropped, and meant to return it to the rightful owner later. Mrs. Ridley was overcome at her arrest. She asked that her daughter in East Orange be notified, but over the telephone it was learned that Mrs. Anslow was then at the hospital awaiting the outcome of the operation on her husband.

JEFFRIES TRYING TO GET INTO OLLIE FIGHTING FORM.

James J. Jeffries, former champion heavyweight pugilist of the world, today denied that he had decided to accept Jack Johnson's challenge. The report of his decision to meet the present title-holder said that Johnson's interview had taunted the big Californian into a decision to re-enter the ring, and that he was ready to officially announce his willingness to meet the negro. "I haven't said anything to anybody," said Jeffries, at the Hotel Albany. "Have you decided to fight Johnson?" asked The Evening World reporter. "No, I have not," said Jeffries. "I stand where I was weeks ago. I want to see if I can get into proper condition before I say I will fight anyone."

Jeffries indicated that it will be some time before he announces his decision.

RAILROAD KING BUILDING TRUNK LINE TO PANAMA.



PETROSINO'S BODY HELD UP BY THE MAFIA

Shipping Agent Cancels Contract for Transportation, on Threat of Death.

PALERMO, March 18.—The body of Joseph Petrosino is still in the mortuary chamber of the Rotoli Cemetery at the disposal of W. H. Bishop, the American Consul. It is being carefully guarded.

Mr. Bishop a few days ago concluded a contract with the agent of a shipping company for the transportation of Petrosino's body to America. Today the agent went to Mr. Bishop and threw up his engagement. He said he had received secret warning that his life would be in danger if he in any way became connected with the case, and he was fearful of the Mafia's revenge. Among the men taken into custody by the Italian authorities are two whose connection with the case is thought to be very close. The police maintain absolute secrecy with regard to their identity.

Mr. Bishop yesterday received an anonymous letter in which the writer says he heard a certain man, whom he indicates but does not identify, offer the threat that if Mr. Bishop continues his activities in the Petrosino case he would return to America dead instead of alive.

ROME, March 18.—Ambassador Griscom talked today with foreign Minister Tullio regarding the threatening letters addressed to W. H. Bishop, of the American Consul at Palermo, Sicily, in the matter of his activity in running down the men suspected of complicity in the plot against Lieut. Petrosino, of New York, who was murdered here six days ago.

The foreign minister assured the Ambassador that all precautions to insure the safety of Mr. Bishop and the Consul had been taken. The building was being closely watched and Mr. Bishop was being guarded every time he went out.

CLERK OWES \$43,396.

Mansfield's Debts Scattered on Two Continents—Assets Nowhere.

James H. Mansfield, who describes himself as a clerk residing at No. 23 West Forty-third street, in a voluntary bankruptcy petition in the United States District Court to-day gives liabilities of \$43,396, with no available assets.

The bankrupt owes the Goldfield Club, of Goldfield, Nev., \$25 house charges; National Democratic Club, No. 517 Fifth avenue, \$45 house charges; Violet Watson, Goldfield, Nev., \$12.50 money loaned; Laura Earl, West Forty-third street, \$25 money loaned; Hotel Cecil, London, England, \$30 board bill; Hotel Titor, Paris, France, \$100 board bill, and other debts.

HARRIMAN BUILDS GREAT RAILROAD DIRECT TO PANAMA

Wizard Is Building \$100,000,000 Trunk Line Through Seven Republics.

DIRECT FROM MEXICO.

1,400 Miles Already Constructed Through Rich Country Along Pacific.

E. H. Harriman, restlessly flitting through the great Southwest, ostensibly in search of rest and health, is never out of reach of certain trusted subordinates who are reeling for him a dream project which bids fair to rank with the most ambitious railroad plans ever conceived. Mr. Harriman was never busier in his life than he is to-day. His prompt denial of a story from Los Angeles to the effect that he contemplates retiring from active business contains the statement that he expects to continue in harness for some years to come.

Shrewd men who have noted the rapid extension of the Southern Pacific down along the western coast of Mexico have been making inquiries. They are convinced that E. H. Harriman has started a railroad line that will, within a few years—by the time the Panama Canal is finished—extend in an unbroken line from Nogales, on the Mexican-Arizona border, down the Pacific Coast through Mexico, Guatemala, Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua and Costa Rica to the City of Panama and there connect with the Panama Railroad, which parallels the Panama Canal over to Colon.

Could Not Quit If He Wished.

Mr. Harriman's statement concerning his intention to remain in harness was called out by an alleged interview with him, published in a Los Angeles afternoon paper yesterday, and wired here. As soon as it was called to Mr. Harriman's attention, he denied the reported statements explicitly and added:

"I could not quit the fight if I wanted to. There is far too much work to be done for me to even think of retiring. I am particularly interested in the great Mexican railroad system we are building in Mexico."

The Harriman extension into Mexico has already been completed for more than 700 miles. A line 800 miles long is now under construction and the work is being pushed at a rate of speed never before known in Mexican railroad building. The road is well ballasted, the rails are heavy and the rolling stock and all other equipment are of the highest class.

New York to Canal.

The \$100,000,000 bond issue for the extension of the Southern Pacific into Mexico caused a lot of comment among the stockholders. It seems destined to pay for the start of a piece of railroad construction which with the Harriman connections in the East will make the Southern Pacific a trunk line from New York to the banks of the Panama Canal.

"From trustworthy Mexican sources I am informed that Mr. Harriman plans a great Pan-American Railroad system, linking the continents of North America and South America by rail," said Mr. Jose M. Ortiz, the Mexican engineer, of No. 60 Wall street, to an Evening World reporter.

Mr. Ortiz is a native of Alamos, State of Sonora, Mexico, and the owner of rich copper mines in the State of Guerrero. His family is prominent in Mexico. One of the towns on the Harriman extension into the State of Sonora is named Ortiz, after the engineer, who has been all over Western Mexico on horseback, and knows every mile of the great field invaded by the genius of American railroads.

"Then I have further proof that Mr. Harriman is going to carry his Mexican railroad system below the city of Guadalajara," continued Mr. Ortiz. "With others of my family, I am interested in copper mines in the State of Guerrero, some five hundred miles below the State of Jalisco. We hear that the Harriman engineers have been through that State, working in the direction of Panama, and I am satisfied that the wonderful energy of the great American railroad builder will not rest until he has built right up to the Panama Canal itself."

"At the rate Mr. Harriman is building his Southern Pacific extensions southward," continued Mr. Ortiz, "it is only a matter of time before he will be breaking up the Democratic party into its radical and conservative elements."

Entitled to Lasting Gratitude.

The patriotic spirit which moved those under Mr. Cleveland's leadership to break from party ties and save the country from repudiation entitled them and him to our everlasting gratitude.

"Another great debt which the American people owe to Mr. Cleveland is the fact that he was the first President to break from party ties and save the country from repudiation."

COUNTRY OWES CLEVELAND DEBT, TAFT'S EULOGY

Praises Spirit Which Moved Him to Break from Party on Silver.

A GREAT PRESIDENT.

Patriot in Highest Sense of Public Duty and Man of Highest Character.

Within two hours after he reached town this afternoon President Taft was standing on the stage at Carnegie Hall before an audience of prominent men and women delivering a eulogy of Grover Cleveland at the first of the two memorial meetings arranged for this date in honor of the dead ex-President of the United States.

With him on the same platform were the other prominent figures of the exercises, including Chief Justice Fuller of the United States Supreme Court and Gov. Hughes, who also spoke; Richard Watson Gilder, who read a poem of his own composition dedicated to Grover Cleveland, and Francis Lynde Stetson, Woodrow Wilson, Paul Morton, Nathan Straus and Andrew Carnegie.

From the arch above the stage in the main auditorium a portrait of Mr. Cleveland, appropriately draped, looked down upon a score or more of men who were actively associated with him in one or both of his administrations and upon many others who knew him personally and admired him. When President Taft entered the entire assemblage rose and stood until he had been seated.

Mayor McClellan, who presided, arose as soon as the first number of the musical programme had been finished. In his remarks the Mayor said:

Virtues of Clevelandism.

"Clevelandism has been described as being nothing but the expression of the everyday and of the commonplace, and so it is, for it is the enunciation of right living and thinking and doing, of rugged honesty and integrity in thought and word and deed in private life and in public affairs, of plain speaking and plain dealing, of sincerity of purpose and absolute certainty of the righteousness of its cause—all homely, everyday, commonplace virtues."

President Taft's address was not alone an eulogy of ex-President Cleveland. He referred often to many of the public questions which were dealt with during Cleveland's two administrations. In part he said:

"We hear much in these days of the usurpation of the legislative jurisdiction by the Executive branch. As long as the Legislative branch has the power of the purse, the danger of Executive usurpation is imaginary. The real danger arises from the disposition of the Legislative branch to assume that it has the omnipotence of Parliament and may completely control the discretion conferred upon the Executive by the Constitution."

Owes Debt to Cleveland.

"The country is under obligation to Mr. Cleveland for having pointed out in his controversy with a Republican Senate some of the limitations that there are in the Constitution upon attempted legislative action to restrict Executive discretion."

After reviewing Mr. Cleveland's defeat in 1888 and his reelection in 1892, Mr. Taft came to the point where he discussed the rise of the free silver issue. In this connection he said:

"When Mr. Cleveland succeeded in securing the repeal of the Sherman act it seemed as if his control over the party with respect to the monetary issue had been exhausted. His party had been hopelessly divided, and the majority of it declared in favor of the free coinage of silver, a policy which we know today, and which we ought to have known then, was nothing but a policy of repudiation. It was a policy completely contrary to the ancient and traditional views of the old Democratic party. . . . In my judgment, the safety of the Republic was threatened by the breaking up of the Democratic party into its radical and conservative elements."

Count Tolstoy Still Ill.

ST. PETERSBURG, March 18.—Count Leo Tolstoy is again suffering from inflammation of the veins in his leg, but his condition as yet is not serious.

SCORES ARREST OF FORMER PRIEST IN MURDER PLOT

Magistrate Crane Declares It Outrage and Discharges Rudinski.

NO EVIDENCE OF CRIME.

The Newark Detective Who Brought Warrant Here Also Rouses Wrath of Court.

Anton Rudinski, a deposed Polish priest, was arrested this afternoon at No. 513 West One Hundred and Nineteenth street on a warrant issued by Judge Herr, of the Criminal Court of Newark, charging him with conspiracy in the case of Father Erasmus Anson, pastor of St. Stanislaus Church, murdered in his rectory in Newark a week ago yesterday.

There was no indictment against him and no evidence apparently and Magistrate Crane released him.

Rudinski was hurried to Centre Street Police Court. Mrs. Antonia Satezka, the housekeeper, who was shot and painfully injured by the three assassins who killed Father Anson, was in a side room in the Criminal Courts Building. Rudinski was lined up with fifteen persons picked indiscriminately from the crowd in the court, and Mrs. Satezka was brought in and asked to pick him out, if she could recognize him, as one of the three men who entered the rectory and killed Father Anson.

The woman walked slowly down the line, scrutinizing each face. Then she walked back, continuing her scrutiny. Several times she traversed the distance along the line and at last admitted that none of the men before her was implicated in the assassination.

Then the case came before Magistrate Crane. He denounced the arrest as an outrage.

Asked for His Arrest.

Rudinski was arrested upon information gathered by the Newark police. A detective from that city called at Headquarters at noon with the warrant and said he wanted assistance in serving it, as Rudinski was ready to leave the country and would probably resist arrest.

Lieuts. Hyams and Hughes were sent with him. They found Rudinski at the One Hundred and Nineteenth street address. He offered no resistance and said he was unable to speak English. The detective from Newark, a Pole, attempted to question him, but met with no success.

The Newark deaths were so sensitive that the ire of the Court was aroused. He told Rudinski through the interpreter that he had a perfect right to walk out of court and could not be arrested again on the old warrant.

Rudinski replied that he would not walk out of court until the whole matter was straightened out. He declared he had nothing to do with the killing of Father Anson and could prove it.

It appears that Rudinski was unfrocked in Poland. He came to the United States, represented himself as a priest in good standing, and was at one time connected with St. Stanislaus Church. But the news got to Poland, and word was sent to the pastor of St. Stanislaus that he was an outlaw. Then he was ignominiously dismissed.

So far as is known, Father Anson had no part in this transaction. But Rudinski is said to have been on terms of intimate friendship with certain influential parishioners, who were anxious to get Father Anson out of the way.

Denounces the Arrest.

The Newark detectives, after consulting with a number of the District Attorney's staff, finally said they had no claim upon Rudinski. They admitted their only object was to get him over to Newark in order that he might be questioned by the Essex County Prosecutor.

When this was repeated to Magistrate Crane he denounced the arrest of Rudinski as an outrage, and said the police of this city should pay no attention to warrants from outside the State on charges involving homicide unless they were based upon an indictment. There is absolutely nothing to connect Rudinski with the murder of Father Anson.

JOHN BIGELOW, WHO DOESN'T FEAR SEA TRIP AT 92.



JOHN BIGELOW, AT 92, GOES ON JAUNT TO EUROPE

"Never Felt Better," He Declares Before Sailing on La Provence.

hale and hearty at the age of ninety-two, John Bigelow, accompanied by his daughter, Miss Grace Bigelow, sailed to-day for France on La Provence, of the French line.

In returning to Paris Mr. Bigelow will revisit scenes where he took an active part in the world of diplomacy and letters during his sojourn there as Minister to France.

Before sailing Mr. Bigelow said: "I am going abroad for a little jaunt. Although I don't expect to do much jaunting. Apartments have been engaged for us in Paris, and to these I expect to stick pretty close during my stay at the French capital. I will return to New York on May 1, having engaged accommodations on the same ship which I am sailing on."

"The trip will doubtless do me a world of good, although I must confess I never felt better in my life."

When asked if he had any comments to make on the pending reconstruction of the Pacific Mr. Bigelow smiled and said: "I am not intermeddling on that or any other political question."

To Come Back Refreshed.

Physically active and mentally alert at ninety-two, Mr. Bigelow expects to find a great many things to write about and think about and talk about during his present trip.

Always a worker, always prominent in the big movement of the day in city, State and nation, the Grand Old Man of Gramercy Square will no doubt return from his vacation refreshed and rested and ready to go on with whatever task may come to his hands, whether it be writing letters in behalf of some deserving candidate for public office or planning for the future of the New York Public Library—of whose Board of Trustees he is the president—or lending his voice, his influence and his pen to some worthy reform.

Mr. Bigelow was born in Malden, N. Y. After graduating from Union College in 1835 he studied law and was admitted to the bar in this city in 1838, but forsook his profession eleven years later to become one of the proprietors and editors of The New York Evening Post. In 1861 he was appointed American Consul at Paris by President Lincoln, and in 1864 was promoted to the post of Minister to France.

He was Secretary of State for New York from 1865 to 1870, and was appointed by Gov. Samuel J. Tilden, chairman of the board to investigate the management of the State canals. He was executor of Mr. Tilden's estate.

KIDNAPPERS DEMAND RANSOM OF \$10,000 FOR RICH MAN'S BOY

Boldly Drive to School, Tell Teacher Young Son of James P. Whitla Is Wanted at Father's Office and Carry Off Child.

MAIL LETTER TO PARENTS ORDERING MONEY SENT THEM.

Two in Daring Plot at Sharon, Pa., Being Hunted by Force of Police—Stolen Boy Is a Nephew of F. H. Buhl, Millionaire Iron Manufacturer.

SHARON, Pa., March 18.—William Whitla, the young son of James P. Whitla, a wealthy and well-known attorney and former Republican candidate for Congress, was kidnapped by two men to-day and later his parents received a letter demanding a ransom of \$10,000.

The boy is a pupil in room No. 2 of the East Ward School. About 9.30 this morning two men drove up to the school in a buggy. One met the janitor and told him that William Whitla was wanted at his father's office immediately. The janitor carried the message to the boy's teacher and the teacher prepared the child for the journey.

As she was putting on the clothing she remarked to the boy: "I hope they are not kidnapping you." The boy was taken to the buggy, where he climbed in and took a seat between the two men. That was the last seen of him.

The father, James Whitla, is in New Wilmington, Pa., on business to-day. When the boy failed to return at noon Mrs. Whitla began an investigation, but failed to find any trace of the boy. She went to the school and there learned that the boy had been taken away by two men. About 1 o'clock this afternoon the postman stopped at the Whitla home and left a letter addressed to the boy's father.

Mrs. Whitla opened it and found that it demanded \$10,000 ransom. The letter instructed Mr. Whitla to advertise where the money could be secured. The police were notified and sent out a description of the men, and asked the police of nearby towns to co-operate.

Mr. Whitla is a brother-in-law of F. H. Buhl, the millionaire iron manufacturer.

Superintendent of Police and Detective McQuinn, of this city, was notified of the kidnapping this afternoon and immediately detailed a large number of officers on the case. Young Whitla is eight years old.

The two men who kidnapped young Whitla are said to be Italians.

WESTON HEADS FOR TROY.

Veteran Walker on His Last Lap Along Hudson River.

HUDSON, N. Y., March 18.—Tired after his sixty-mile tramp from Fishkill here on a single stage of his New York to San Francisco walk, Edward Payson Weston, the veteran pedestrian, was late in setting out to-day on what he expected to make the final lap of his journey along the Hudson River. Weston arrived here at 2 o'clock this morning and slept more than six hours before continuing his walk. He said he expected to spend the night in Troy.

The World's Travel Bureau. Second Avenue Booth, New Pulitzer Building. Full information, tickets, drafts, express, parcel and bag checking. A new public convenience. In the path of travel.

\$1,000 REWARD

THE WORLD will pay a reward of \$1,000 for information that will lead to the detection, arrest and conviction of the man or men responsible for the murder of Police Lieutenant Joseph Petrosino, in Palermo, Sicily, on Friday evening, March 12.